

having any effect on health care to veterans," citing figures from studies that were challenged earlier this year. For example, the majority whip's release contended VA could save a million dollars a day by eliminating some of its overhead in capital assets. But whether savings of this magnitude could be realized in the immediate future with significantly uprooting current VA programs is highly questionable. Even without the Republican budget cuts, "there isn't enough money in the budget now to tear down or renovate underutilized buildings, let alone to replace them with new, modern, smaller clinics. Any savings here will require investment, not magic, and will not come quickly."

Likewise, DELAY's release pointed to a report suggesting \$17 million is lost each year in fraudulent or improper workers compensation claims. Actually, testimony at the March 24 Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations hearing demonstrated that VA's workers compensation costs are not unusual, and that the answer is in heading off injuries and helping employees with rehabilitation. In fact, VA has been cutting these costs since 1994, and is completing automation of its claims system for better management, but savings are already part of the FY 2000 budget.

The DeLay release also noted his plan would not affect benefits checks. Of course, it wouldn't. That, at least, is still out of Mr. DELAY's reach. It's troubling that he would even mention compensation for service-connected disabilities and his restraint with regard to compensation for service-connected disabilities.

ON WALTER PAYTON'S PASSING

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 1999

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join in remembering an extraordinary athlete and person, Mr. Walter Payton.

Walter Payton was a hero on and off the football field. Throughout his life, he epitomized courage, determination and dignity. Self-motivated by a standard of excellence, he used his intelligence and God-given ability to excel in his professional and personal life. As you know, this standard of excellence is detailed in the numerous stats, and records he accumulated throughout his football career.

In thirteen years of playing professional football, Walter set 28 Bears records and 7 NFL records. The All time NFL leader in total rushing yards (16,726) and combined net yardage (21,803), Payton was truly one of the greatest running backs who ever played the game. He rushed for 1,000 yards in 10 of his seasons, and set the longstanding record for most rushing yards gained in a single game. I still recall Walter's historic performance against the Minnesota Vikings, where he rushed for 275 yards, and carried the ball 40 times. Furthermore, I am sure that if a record existed for endurance, Walter would have set that as well. Payton only missed one game in his entire career, which spanned 13 seasons and 190 games.

I recall many moments watching Walter and being in awe of his numerous athletic feats. His sheer will, determination and courage will forever be a measure for athletic and personal excellence. Throughout his thirteen stellar years with the Chicago Bears, I cannot recall a single time when Walter chose to run the ball into the sidelines, rather than run straight into an opposing defender or group of defenders. He displayed courage when confronted with any obstacle. Even while facing the toughest obstacle in his life, Walter bravely announced to the world his battle with the liver disorder and cancer, that would claim his life.

On occasions that Walter visited me in my office, his humility and down to earth approach always impressed me. It was refreshing. It was those qualities that became even more evident during these last few months.

"Sweetness," graceful, courageous, electrifying and charming are just a few of the characteristics that Walter embodied throughout his life. I am deeply saddened by Walter Payton's passing. My prayers are with his loving wife and children. In closing, I will forever treasure the many memories Walter Payton has left behind, and I hope his family and his many friends rest assured knowing that he has found comfort in God's hands.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CARTER G. WOODSON HOME NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE STUDY ACT OF 1999

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 1999

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Carter G. Woodson Home National Historic Site Study Act of 1999. The legislation would honor the great American historian, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, by authorizing the Department of the Interior to study the feasibility and suitability of designating his home at 1538 Ninth Street, NW., Washington, DC, as a national historic site within the National Park Service.

Carter G. Woodson was born on December 19, 1875, in New Canton, VA. Public education was not available to blacks in New Canton, and the young Woodson did not begin his formal education until 1895, after he had relocated to Huntington, West Virginia. Dr. Woodson obtained his high school diploma in 1895 and then entered Berea College in Kentucky, where he received his B.L. degree in 1897. Woodson continued his education at the University of Chicago, where he earned his A.B. and M.A. degrees. In 1912, Woodson earned a Ph.D. degree from Harvard University, following W.E.B. Du Bois as the second black American to receive a doctorate from that institution. During the period between entering Berea College and his Harvard graduation in 1912, Woodson also held several teaching positions in the United States and abroad.

Woodson took a special interest in the widespread ignorance and scanty information concerning African American life and history during his extensive studies. He saw the great need to educate the American public about

the contributions of black Americans in the formation of the nation's history and culture, and he especially perceived that a concerted effort was needed to counter the extensive influence of Jim Crow and the pervasively negative portrayals of African Americans prevalent at the time. To correct this situation, on September 9, 1915, Dr. Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), since renamed the Association for the Study of African-American Life and History. Through ASNLH, Dr. Woodson would dedicate his life to educating the American public about the contributions of black Americans in the formation of the nation's history and culture.

Among its enduring accomplishments, ASNLH instituted Negro History Week in 1926 to enlighten all levels of the general populace regarding the contributions of black Americans to society. Celebrated annually during the second week of February, this weeklong observance gradually gained national support and participation of schools, colleges, and other organizations across the country. Eventually, Negro History Week evolved into Black History Month and is widely celebrated and used to educate Americans about African American life, history, and achievement.

Under Dr. Woodson's stewardship, ASNLH in 1920 also founded the Associated Publishers, Inc. to handle the publication of research on African American history. Dr. Woodson published his seminal work *The Negro in Our History* (1922) and many others under Associated Publishers, and the publishing company provided an outlet for scholarly works by numerous other black scholars. ASNLH also circulated two periodicals: the *Negro History Bulletin*, designed for mass consumption, and the *Journal of Negro History*, which was primarily directed to the academic community.

Dr. Woodson directed ASNLH's operations out of his home at 1538 Ninth Street, NW., Washington, DC. From there, he trained researchers and staff and managed the organization's budget and fundraising efforts, while at the same time pursuing his own study of African American history. This Victorian style house, built in 1890, is already listed as a National Historic Landmark. I am now introducing a bill which I hope will lead to the Woodson home achieving national historic site designation so that the resources of the National Park Service will be available to preserve and maintain this national treasure.

FEMA AND CIVIL DEFENSE MONUMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 1, 1999

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this bill authorizing the construction of a monument honoring those hard-working individuals who have served the nation's civil defense and emergency management programs.

I personally understand their sacrifice and the sacrifice of the thousands of similar individuals who rise to the occasion when called

upon by disaster. In my family, there are 16 firefighters. My cousins, uncles, and in-laws who have dedicated their lives to responding to emergencies have set a standard not met by many today.

FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, has played a key role in assisting Americans in their time of need. Many of us can hardly imagine the emotional and physical devastation a natural disaster reaps upon a community. When we see a news story on television or in the paper, we might pause and feel sorry for the unknown victims who have had their lives ripped apart. But then we move on with our daily lives, never giving a second thought to what these poor individuals and families must go through after we have moved on. There are notable exceptions, of course: the most recent and continuing efforts to help North Carolina flood victims; the outpouring of assistance for the victims of the F-5 tornado that ripped through a small town in central Texas called Jarrell in 1997.

We have memorials that honor a host of wars and conflicts and those men and women who sacrificed their lives for these world-changing events. But there are other individuals, our civil defense and emergency personnel, who make an equally large contribution. These honorable citizens deserve to be recognized, too, for the day-to-day "battles" for which they risk their lives.

H.R. 348 proposes such a monument to be situated upon land owned by FEMA. I think it is appropriate and timely that we authorize this monument as we head into the 21st century. I therefore urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING DR. GEORGE RIEVESCHL, JR. AS THE CININNATI ART MUSEUM INAUGURATES THE GEORGE RIEVESCHL MEDAL FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 1999

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and distinguished constituent, Dr. George Rieveschl, Jr., as he receives the first George Rieveschl Medal for Distinguished Service from the Cincinnati Art Museum. This important new award will recognize individuals who demonstrate unselfish leadership, philanthropy, advocacy and innovation in service to one of America's premier art museums.

Through Dr. Rieveschl's leadership, the Museum has regained its stature throughout the nation. His influence has touched all areas of the museum—management, governance, fundraising, and acquisitions. Dr. Rieveschl's leadership has resulted in such monumental achievements as the creation of the Founders Society to provide a core group of individual support; the capital campaign for gallery renovations and outreach programs; and the current initiative to acquire important art objects of Cincinnati collectors as millenium gifts. Dr.

Rieveschl has led by example, generously assisting the Museum with his own philanthropy.

Dr. Rieveschl graduated from the Ohio Mechanics Institute with a degree in Commercial Art in 1933. He received his A.B. with High Honors in Chemistry from the University of Cincinnati in 1937, and went on to earn his M.S. and Ph.D. from U.C. In 1940, he began as an Instructor in Chemical Engineering at U.C. His loyalty and dedication to U.C. resulted in his selection to be Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University of Cincinnati Foundation, a position from which he retired in 1981. During his career, Dr. Rieveschl held scientific research positions with Parke, Davis and the Carborundum Company. Dr. Rieveschl's laboratory research at U.C. resulted in the world's first effective antihistamine—named Benadryl by Dr. Rieveschl—which was approved for prescription sale in 1946. By the early 1960s, Benadryl's sales rose to \$6 million per year. Benadryl was approved for over-the-counter sale in the 1980s.

In 1970, he returned to the University of Cincinnati to become Vice President for Research and Development and Adjunct Professor of Materials, and in 1972 became Vice President for Special Projects. The University of Cincinnati presented him with an honorary Doctor of Science degree in 1956.

We congratulate Dr. Rieveschl on receiving this landmark honor, and are grateful for his many important contributions to medicine, to the Greater Cincinnati area, and to the Cincinnati Art Museum.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. NAVY FIRE CONTROLMAN CHIEF (SURFACE WARFARE) LAWRENCE ERIC EVANS

HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 1999

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize U.S. Navy Fire Controlman Chief (Surface Warfare) Lawrence Eric Evans upon his retirement from the United States Navy after 24 years of honorable service which will occur on the Thirty-First day of October, Nineteen Hundred Ninety Nine.

Chief Evans has been supported in his service this great nation by his wife, Michele Karen (Gudyka) Evans; his son, Lawrence William Evans and his daughter, Laurny Michele Evans.

Chief Evans was born 28 June 1956 in Ruislip, England to 1stLT Larry Earl Evans, U.S. Air Force and Ada Mary (Georges) Evans. He graduated from Spring Woods Senior High School in May 1974 and entered Recruit Training Center, Orlando, Florida in August 1975 where he remained until October 1975. He then received basic Fire Control and Advanced Systems training from November 1975 to May 1977. He then served aboard U.S.S. *Saipan* (LHA 2) pre-commissioning command from June 1977 to August 1981 as Work Center Supervisor of AN/SPS-52B RADAR; the ship was commissioned 15 October 1977.

Chief Evans was discharged from the U.S. Navy 15 August 1981. He attended Howard College, Big Spring, Texas in the Fall Semester of 1981 and worked briefly for Sperry Gyroscope in Clearwater, Florida from February 1982 to May 1982. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy Ready Reserves from June 1982 to October 1983 and worked for Vitro Laboratories in Washington, D.C. until October 1983. He attended Montgomery College, Rockville, Maryland in the Fall Semester 1982 and in the Spring Semester 1983.

Chief Evans re-Enlisted in the U.S. Navy (Active) 13 October 1983 and entered the Recruit Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois in October 1983. He received advanced Fire Control systems training from January 1984 to July 1984. He served aboard U.S.S. *Whidbey Island* (LSD 41) pre-commissioning command from August 1984 to November 1988 as Leading Weapons Petty Officer Navy Close In Weapons System; as the Command Shipboard Non-classified Automated Processing (SNAP) Coordinator; and as a Navy Small Arms and Weapons Instructor. The ship was commissioned 09 February 1985.

Chief Evans earned an Associate of Science degree from Mohegan College, Connecticut in May 1987. He was transferred to Naval Recruiting District at Richmond, Virginia October 1988 to December 1991 and recruited 84 new Sailors from Culpeper & Fredericksburg, Virginia. He then received advanced Fire Control systems training from January 1992 to August 1992.

Chief Evans served aboard U.S.S. *Supply* (AOE 6) pre-commissioning command from 09 September 1992 to August 1996 as Leading Weapons Chief NATO SeaSparrow Guided Missile System, Close In Weapons System, and Target Acquisition System; as the Command Information Systems Security Officer; and as the Command Material Maintenance Management (3M) Coordinator. The ship was Commissioned 26 February 1994.

Finally, Chief Evans transferred to Fleet Combat Training Center, Dam Neck, Virginia from August 1996 to October 1999 as the Command LAN Administrator and Leading Chief of Information Technologies where he ends his career.

Chief Evans is proud to wear many ribbons and medals: Navy "E" (one for each ship on which he served); Sea Service; Meritorious Unit Commendations; Recruiting; Expeditionary; Humanitarian; and National Defense. These are the awards of his teamwork and commitment to his commands' overall missions.

Chief Evans has also personally earned three commendation letters for recruiting excellence; a letter of commendation for his service aboard the U.S.S. *Whidbey Island*; awards for weapons Marksmanship—most notably expert pistol marksmanship; and finally medals for both Achievement and Commendation for service aboard U.S.S. *Supply* (AOE 6).

Chief Evans completes his naval career with many happy memories having served with honor, upholding his oath:

I promise to defend the Constitution of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; and hold true allegiance to the same.